



At-Large Advisory Committee

28 February 2016

Steve Crocker, Chair, ICANN Board of Directors,
cc: Rinalia Abdul Rahim, ICANN Director, At-Large,
Cherine Chalaby, Past Chair, New gTLD Program Committee
Thomas Schneider, Chair, Governmental Advisory Committee

Subject: Study Group on Sensitive New gTLDs

Dear Steve,

The ALAC is responding to Mr. Chalaby's letter of 30 September 2015 sent on the behalf of the NGPC, regarding Public Interest Commitment (PICs) that the GAC and ALAC have been calling for, with regard to highly-regulated strings, wherein Mr. Chalaby notes:

"The NGPC does not believe that it currently possesses the authority to establish a new community-based mechanism like the PICs review committee suggested by Mr. Andruff. Rather, consistent with ICANN's bottom-up multistakeholder model, we think it is more appropriate to provide you with Mr. Andruff's proposal for your consideration."

The ALAC has been on-record with its desire to see a review mechanism put in place long before it read the ALAC PICs Resolution¹ into the record at the Public Forum at ICANN 51 Los Angeles.

Therefore, our response to Mr. Chalaby's letter is that the ALAC believes that the Board has all of the requisite authority to call on the community to establish the said "Review Committee" based upon the fact that this is a specific PICs implementation issue that was called for by the GAC in their ICANN 46 Beijing Communiqué, as well as in every related Communiqué since then. The ALAC does understand that the Board may not have the authority to address any problems discovered by the Committee, but in light of the ongoing CCT Review and the PDP for future rounds of new gTLDs, the investigation itself appears to have significant merit.

With the understanding that the GAC also has an interest in participating in this review, the ALAC commits to participate in such a review committee.

In our view, continuing to shunt this critical public interest issue from place to place – rather than getting on and dealing with the matter once and for all – must come to an end; the requisite

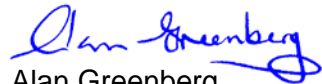
¹ ALAC Statement on the Public Interest Commitments, 16 October 2014,
<http://atlarge.icann.org/correspondence/correspondence-16oct14-en.htm>

reviews of Public Interest Commitments for the GAC Category 1, Safeguard 1-8 TLDs should begin post haste.

We await the Board call to the ICANN community to populate a committee consistent with what has been described in the documents Mr. Chalaby attached to his email.

This should be considered formal Advice to the Board, unanimously adopted by the At-Large Advisory Committee.

Regards,



Alan Greenberg

Chair, At-Large Advisory Committee